

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the present application in view of the foregoing amendments and in view of the reasons that follow.

Status of Claims:

Claims 1-11 are currently being cancelled.

No claims are currently being amended.

Claims 12-26 are currently being added. Support for new claims 12-26 may be found in paragraphs [0039] to [0042] of the specification.

This amendment and reply adds and cancels claims in this application. A detailed listing of all claims that are, or were, in the application, irrespective of whether the claims remain under examination in the application, is presented, with an appropriate defined status identifier.

After adding and canceling the claims as set forth above, claims 12-26 are now pending in this application.

Claim Rejections – Prior Art:

In the Office Action, claims 1-11 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,675,717 to Yamamoto. This rejection is traversed with respect to new claims 12-26, for at least the reasons given below.

The present invention is directed to an image forming apparatus used as a color-copying machine, a color printer and a network scanner. When the image forming machine is used as the copying machine, the color printer or the network scanner, the image data are converted into first, second, third or fourth format to be stored in a storage, and read out image data from the storage are converted to a predetermined format to be displayed visually on a display.

Yamamoto discloses a conversion unit for preview 32 that converts a 90-dpi YMC binary image data into a 90-dpi RGB multivalue image data for preview, whereby the conversion depends on the monitor 14.

Yamamoto merely discloses a conversion from YMC image data into RGB image data, whereby Yamamoto does not disclose or suggest a conversion from YCbCr image data

or YMCK image data to RGB image data to be displayed on a display in accordance with the type of usage as a color-copying machine, a color printer and a network scanner.

In the present invention according to independent claim 12, the image data of a first format read and generated by the scanner is converted into the image data of a second format by the scanner image processor, the second formatted image data is converted into the image data of a third format to be stored in the storage, the third formatted image data is converted into the first formatted image data by the data format converter to be displayed on the display when the image forming apparatus is used as the color-copying machine; the image data received from an external device through the network is stored in the storage in a fourth format, the fourth formatted image data is converted into the first formatted image data by the data format converter to be displayed on the display when the image forming apparatus is used as the color printer; and the image data generated from the original by the scanner is stored in the storage, or the format of the image data is converted to the third format to be stored in the storage, the third formatted image data is converted into the first formatted image data by the data format converter to be displayed on the display when the image forming apparatus is used as the network scanner.

Such features as described above in independent claim 12 are not disclosed or suggested by Yamamoto. Independent claims 17 and 22 recite similar features as those discussed above with respect to claim 12, as means-plus-function and method features, respectively, and thus the features recited in those claims are also not disclosed or suggested by Yamamoto.

Conclusion:

Since all of the issues raised in the Office Action have been addressed in this Amendment and Reply, Applicant believes that the present application is now in condition for allowance, and an early indication of allowance is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check or credit card payment form being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated,

otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

If any extensions of time are needed for timely acceptance of papers submitted herewith, Applicant hereby petitions for such extension under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 and authorizes payment of any such extensions fees to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

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